

# EPITAPH Charles the second King of ENGLAND And to every individual Member of His COUNCIL

Presented to them in pure love and good will, that they might consider of the things herein contained before the King was Crowned, or had taken his Oath; forasmuch as a necessity from the Lord was laid upon the Peo- ple of the Earth to consider of the same. Who it is known to diverse people by the name of Godfathers Christen, From the Town of Haddington the 15 of the 11. 1661.

**G**ive ear, O King, and hearken to Council; for thy heart be inclined to understanding, and consider thy counsels that concern thy everlasting power, and the well-being of all people under thy Government. And Oh you Counsellors of the King, know you this, that the God of Israel, who governs in the Heavens, & in the earth, hath appeared in these Nations, in the absence of the King, and since his Prophets days, to bring to pass his great works, a performance of his promises, and returning the captivity of his people, who have been many Ages past most cruelly afflicted and oppressed under Pharaohs hard Task-masters, who have exercised authority over their Consciences. But now the Lord God is come to deliver his Israel in the Spirit, by the hand of the Great Prophet that Moses prophesied of, saying, The Lord your God said vixen & PROPHET like unto me, from among your brethren, him shall ye hear in all things: And whatsoever shall minister his ear from hearing that Prophet, shall be cut off from among the people. This is the Prophet, O King and Council, whom is sent to you, and by the Hand of this Prophet will the Lord bring to pass the purposes of his heart, and will set up justice and righteousness in the Earth: and who ever they be that will not

Therefore, O King, who heed what thou doest in thy day, and power, and O Council of the King, take heed, lest you counsel the King either to smite, or to go about to establish, or to up the Kingdom of Antichrist, under any form whatsoever, whether

and the **Adventures of the Gull** to  
you all. I hope you will like  
it, and that it will be a  
success. I have no doubt it will.  
I will do my best to make the  
work of the Lord to which you have  
given me a hand, and so you will see  
those chapters gone before you.

And the Lord God hath been stirring with thee, not only by his spirit in his Ministers and Servants; But his wicked in thine own Conscience also: for he hath set the upon thy Father's Throne.

And my self one of the least whom the Lord hath chosen, in bringing me into the good land, wherein many others that are faithful have taste of the fruits and increase themselves, and drink of the pleasure streams that therein run, which more refresh them all the more of earthly creature; so as in obedience to the motions of Gods Spirit, and in his fear and dread, give in my salutation to my brethren O King and his  
My Comf, for the Lord God, though King of kings yet most ob-  
eyed by the people out of his fear and reverence of the Name,  
and for his truth that is fallen in the Gaze, and for his  
people though barmefulle and subject more oppressed than any  
other people in the Nations by reason of the doting Ministers  
which teach the people to err, and as Asaemon to God truth  
and people.

Know this now, therefore, O King, that if thou inflamest Right and the Lord God doth strive with thee, by his Sentence, nor hearken to nor examine the judgment of God with Me in thy own conscience, then the Lord will withhold his favor from thee, and his Spirit from stirring multitudes, and give the chiefhoods of cities and cities shall then be ruled by thine authority.

men, & called to God with his people) who will cause them  
to do such things which may be wroght, once far from thy heart  
to do; & then the Lord God, who respects no man's person, will  
smite them and them with a very terrible overthrow, and after  
from his judgment as he hath done to those that have gone  
before them, who could not hearke his God's servants his Re-  
vealed at the reproofs. For known be it to thee O King, God  
did not remove those men from the throne of Government in  
these Nations, for their well doing but for their evil, for their  
unrighteous & malignant actions, because they Governed not  
for Gods, and therefore as the Kingdoms of the Earth are the  
Lord, to he disposed of them as he pleaseth. He plucks down  
the Governors thence, whose actions proclaim them Tra-  
itors to their Lord and Master who intrusted them, and set up  
others to try them also, whether they will obey and do his  
commands and the things that he delights in. To wit, Mercy  
and Justice, and Judgment and Righteousness, and the contra-  
ry he deuys with the workers thereof, from the highest to the  
lowest. And so when that wicked and perfidious Generation  
of men, would by no means be reformed, then the wrath of  
the Lord was kindled, and his decree went forth against them;  
and so they were dashed in pieces even like a Potter's Vessel;  
twas their wickedness caused them to fall & nothing else, for  
they still obstructed the Lord's work, and yet he bore with  
them a long time, and would not that any should break them  
to pieces, but disappointed all plottings and combinations against  
them from time to time, and also counseled them by his Min-  
isters & Servants, which he sent unto them, and did warn them  
of the evil that fell upon them long before it came, and Re-  
proved them of their evil deeds, and divers times suffered their  
own servants to take their power from them, and then they  
lay under shame and Contempt for some time, and then Re-  
stored to Government again; but still they went on in their  
evil Practices, being Coveteous self-seeking men, having a form of  
Godliness, but denied the power thereof; they were Great  
Oppressors and Hard Hearted men; And Imprisoned the Min-  
isters and Servants of the Lord; And maintained an Idle,  
Drunk, Idolatrous, Hirsling, Tyb-taking Ministry in the Na-  
tions; And suffered them to persecute, Oppresse and Afflict  
the most precious Ministers and Servants of God, whose E-  
states

hast abuſed thy myſty, and whilſt thou makeſt lawes, and ſome of them moſt cruelly abuſed our people, even unto mortall (Mark) therefore O King, had the Lord been pleaſed with ſuch things, then doubletelle choiſe and thy pray haſt never returned to Gogon in theſe Nations any more: if the Lord had ſeen good that Oppreſſion and Grinding the ſacred of the poor, and maintaining a Hatering Miniftary, and forciing the people of God to pay Tithes, and perſecuting, and Imprifoning of Gods Miniftary and Servants ſhould have continued in theſe Nations, then thofe men (which he removed to bring thee in) might haue beene the Instruments for ſuſh a work, and no need for Thee to haue beene brought in, in ſo eminent a manner, to do the work with which the ſpirit of the Lord was burdened and grieved from day to day, and for which his wrath brake forth againſt thofe men, whose names now rot in perpeſual infamy.

Therefore, doth it not concern Thee, O King, and thy Council to conſider what you are doing? For the Lord is the ſame now as ever he was, and regards not King, Council, Parliaments, Armies, Protectors, (ſo caſted) or any one, more than another, otherwaies then they are found in the path of Rigbrouneſſe, Mercy, and true Judgment.

Therefore, Awake, Awake, O KING, with Thy COUN-C.E.L, ſtand up, and ſee whereon the Basis of Thy Kingdom ſtands, leaſt Thy Crown and Dignity fall in the dust in theſe great Overturnings; for verily, verily there is yet a greater Overturning then haſt beene, that will ſuddenly come upon theſe Nations: In which Overturning, O King, Thou, and thy party, if you proceed as you haue begun, muſt be the very ſubjeſt matter of the day, and muſt drink the very bottom and dregs of that Cup, which all persons that haue miſcarried in Government for diuers years paſt haue taſted of; for the Lord haſt tryed you many years by ſore and grievous affiſion, and now hath reſtored you, that all People and Nations may ſee what you will do: And Thou, O King, and thy party, haſt begun to ſet up and maintain that ſaſe Miniftary and worship, and Idolatrous practice and vniuſe Sports (for which the wrath of God brake forth about twenty years ſince againſt thy family) that is to ſay EPISCOPACI, with all the Abominations both in Worſhip and Practice, which it brings along

day of the former day, power, and the glorious day of vi-  
tory, when in the Lord hath admitted you to stand for (say-  
st). And know this, O King! Thy Father and his party  
decreed never saw such a day, nor received so much misery  
(as Thee and thy party that now survives have done) but  
were in the dark and cloudy day, folded up under the buri-  
ing Ministers, and had not the Ministers of Christ, the light  
of the world sent unto them, with message after message, as to  
Thee and Thy party hath been done, counselling Thee, O  
King, and thy Council to fear God, and to work righteousness;  
and the Ministers and servants of the Lord have been  
faithful unto Thee, O King, in every thing, and in this thing  
in particular, that is, Thou hast not the Spirit of God in  
forcing all to worship God after the manner of the Nations  
and Heathen, nor to maintain a *bireling Ministry*; for where  
there is such a thing done by authority, there must of necessi-  
ty follow great ignorance; and grosse darknesse wil soon cover  
the face of such a Nation; for a forced Uniformity in mat-  
ters of Gods worship, and the *bireling Ministry*, is not of God,  
but of the devil, not of Christ, but Antichrist; and such a  
Ministry I do affirm, and shall maintain, was the cause of Thy  
Fathers fall: for the *bireling Ministry* at that time had their  
hearts full of war, and were divided, and so ministered  
death unto the people on both sides. And if thou, O King,  
thall suffer Religion to be established by a Law, and shall force  
people thereto, it will be Thy utter ruin, and thou wilt  
surelyarry in Government, as any that hath gone  
before thee.

And this I declare to thee in tenderlove and pity towards  
thee, and likewise exhort thee in the fear & dread of the Lord  
God: time thou swear not at all; for if thou doth, thou breakest  
the Command of Christ Jesus the Light of the World, who is  
the wisdom of God! By whom Princes rule, and the Kings of the  
earth (Prope Justice) who said, *Swear not at all.* Consider O King,  
what advantage is swearing to the Just man? Will he be the  
more full for swearing? Or, is the command of Christ of none  
effect? Nay, O King, the full man need not swear, thereby  
to add to his integrity; nor doth the Unjust man any wrong  
abate or destroy the decent or hypocrite of his wicked heart,  
where-

whereby he may become more worthy swearing. Therefore O King, if thou canst not do Justice and Right for the People over whom God hath made thee chief Ruler and Magistrate without swearing, thou wilt never be able to do it by Swearing: Nay, O King, but on the contrary, for thee to swear that thou wilt maintain such Religion, or do such and such Justice for the people, puts thee into an absolute incapability to do Justice, forasmuch as that thou refuseth that wisdom by which Kings decree Justice, as aforesaid, that is, Christ Jesus the Wisdom of God, who said, Swear not at all, and so said his Apostle James. And under the Old Covenant, An Oath was an end to all strife; but Christ the Oath of God, and New-Covenant, said, Swear not at all; and Christ the New-Covenant is the Prophet that Moses prophesied of, and said, whosoeuer would not bear him, should be cut off from among the people.

Therefore O King and Council, swear not at all; neither establish Religion by a Law, to force an Uniformity thereunto, nor maintain a Hiring Ministry; for such a thing was the overthrow, not only of thy Father, but of all that have followed after, till thy self by the mighty hand of God were set in the place where now thou art. The Parliaments, Protectors, and Armies were all Swearers, and high pretenders to Religion in the form, but nothing in the power, but persecuted all the upright in heart, who were in the power, but out of their Form; So I say, those Gouvernours who have miscarried in Government did busie themselves very much in matters of God, touching the Consciencies of other men, whereof they had nothing to do; but in the mean time neglected the witness of God in their own particulars, and so were mindlesse and careless of their duties, as civil Magistrates, professing themselves wise, and exalting themselves into the Temple of God, wherein they had not to do, save in their own particulars. They became fools even in the management of their Civil affairs, and so laid a sandy foundation, and like foolish builders continued building their own, till such time their building did fall, and great was the fall thereof. And all this did proceed from the Hiring Ministry which hath in all ages brought forth the same fruits, being still young uppon, and tampering with the greatest men of the Earth, and Kings, and Councils, and Parliaments, and all men in Authority to establish Religion, and to settle the same, and

(13)  
and which is the prophet's task of them. As that will be the case  
to their minds, they presently make war against him; and this hath  
been the state and condition of this Nation and Kingdom unto

And therefore, O King, and Council, be wise, and let not  
by ordinance harms (who not contenting themselves in  
their places, to do the work God set them about, but leaving  
their own work undone, did incertitude and busie themselves  
about God's work, and the Conscience of men (of which Christ  
alone is Lord) and for this hath the Lord dashed them to pie-  
ces one after another since Thy Fathers dayes. First the Par-  
liament, then Protector, so called, and Protector again; then Par-  
liament, then Army and Committee of Safety, so called, then Par-  
liament again, against all which the Lord hath appeared in  
much severity, and hath removed all out of his way, and hath  
brought Thee and Thy party into their place and Author-  
ity to try you: Take heed, I say, therefore, O King, and  
Council of running against this rock, for if you do, you will  
assuredly be dash'd to pieces, as they already are; for false  
worship and false Ministers must down, and all that take part  
with them, and till that time there will never be peace on Earth,  
for tis the false Ministry that divides the people, and causes  
them to run into factions and divisions, and that sets people  
at variance one with another.

The false Ministry O King, that's the evil tree which brings  
forth bad fruit: And indeed they can do no otherwayes, for  
they are not of God, but of the evil one. It's clearly so, O King,  
for the tree was to be known by his fruit, and he is now grown  
so big, and his fruit so numerous, that one may run and read of  
what sort the tree is; and they that see it not to be the evil  
tree, are very near the pit of everlasting destruction.

Thou wert a child O King in thy Fathers dayes, and knew  
not to what perfection this evil tree was then grown, but, with-  
outst thy self a little into thy private chamber, & there inquiet  
of the Ancient of dayes, and ask counsel ut the Oracle of God,  
the Light in thine own conscience, and therewith compare the  
Doctrine of Christ, who is the Word of God, and never depart  
therefrom, even in thy heart & in thy mouth, and thou walt then see,  
hear, and understand what Christ & his Apostles saith, and the  
Prophets before them, concerning the false Prophets, and the  
false Ministers.

THE ENTHRONED OF GLORY.

C. C.